

WATER CONSERVATION EXPO & VENDOR FAIR

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Reducing Water Use in Agricultural Operations

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Commissioner Putnam

"In order to accommodate our explosive growth and ensure that our state, residents and visitors thrive, we need this long-term, science-based and comprehensive approach to water policy."

"This legislation will help provide the resources to meet the needs of our growing population, while protecting our environment."



Weather Station Program

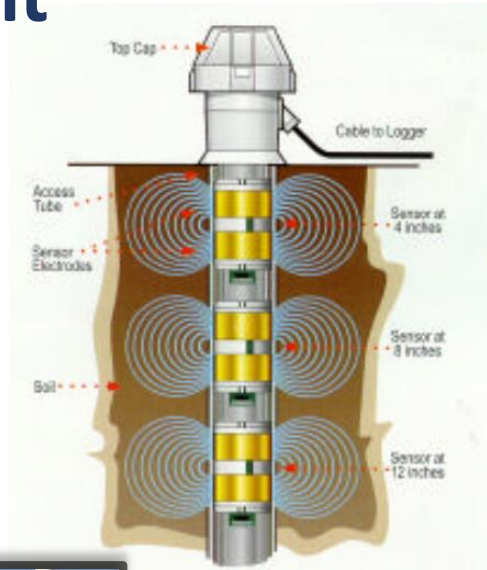
Irrigation Decision Making
Frost Freeze Protection



Irrigation Management

Soil moisture sensors
(SMS)

- Connected to recording system
- Irrigation decision management service



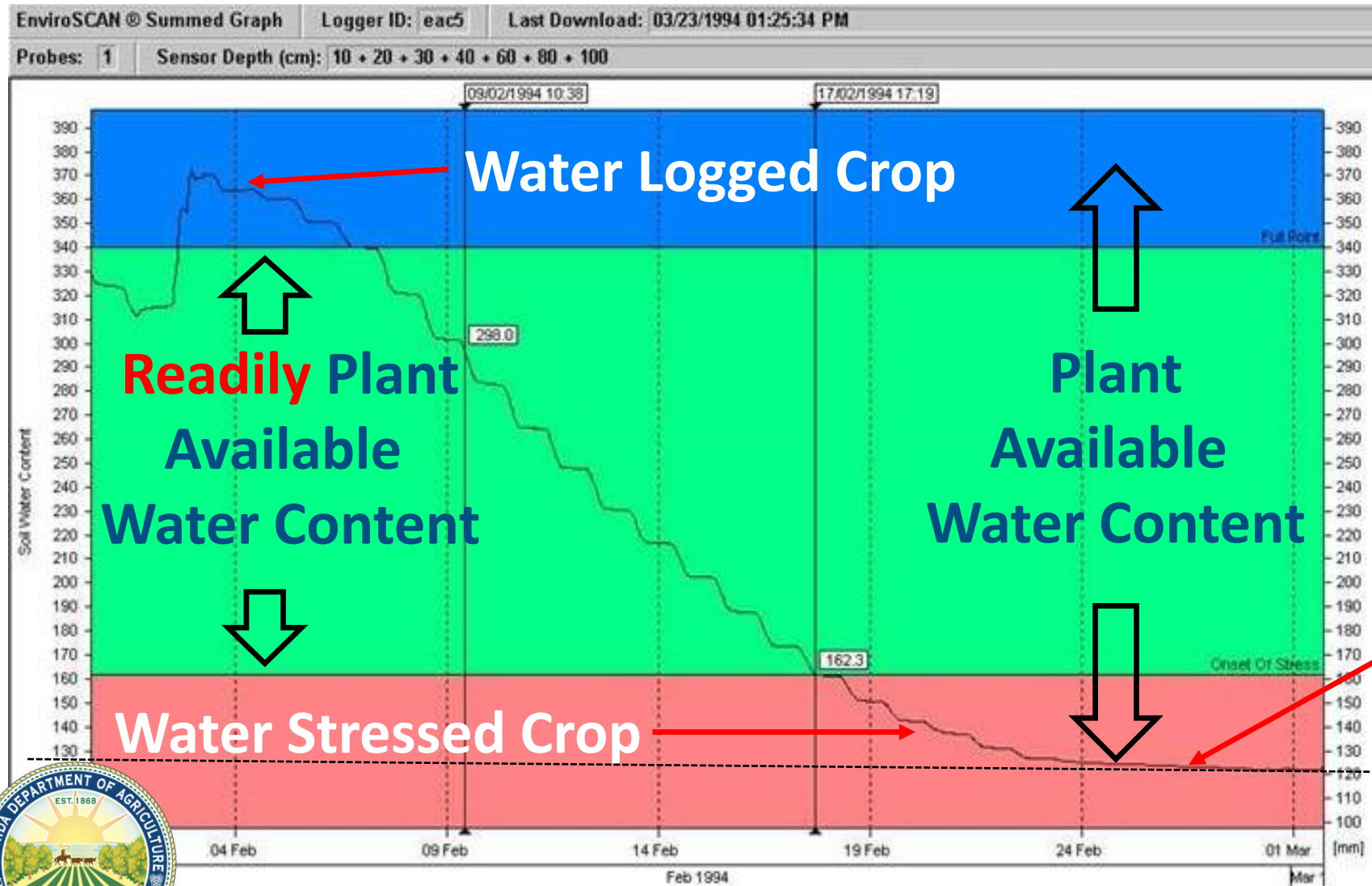
Irrigation Management

Irrigation Controllers

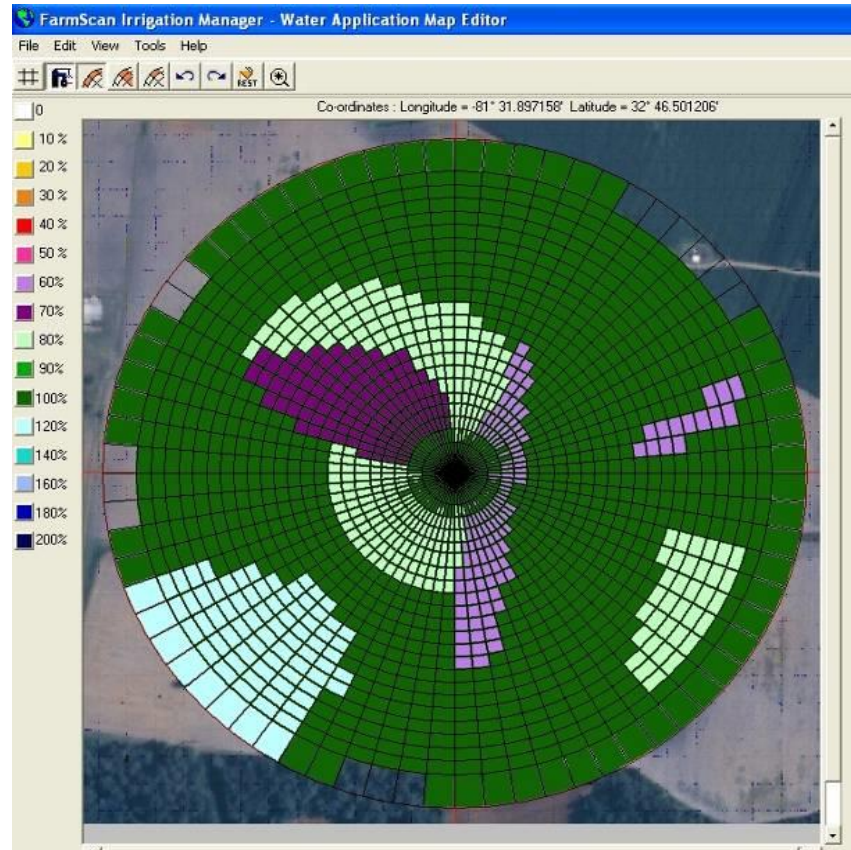


Critical Crop Water Thresholds

Summed Soil Water Profile Graph



Variable Rate Irrigation



- Very compatible with center pivot irrigation systems which are common in North Florida
- Shuts off sprinkler nozzles over wetlands, roads, and center pivot overlap areas
- Research showed 19% water savings in 32 acre field in Colquitt County, Georgia (Perry, 2007)



Irrigation Management

Irrigation System Retrofits



Retention/Detention Tailwater Recovery

- Projects within uplands are frequently exempt from permitting
- Tailwater projects are often smaller than typical 15% footprint
- Water reuse can be as high as 40%
- P and N reductions
- Reduced discharges



FDACS Assistance

❖ Mobile Irrigation Labs

❖ Cost Share

Eligibility Criteria:

- Enrolled in and in compliance with FDACS Best Management Practices (BMP) Program
- Based on availability of funds
- Must quantify P and N reductions, water savings and storage (if applicable)
- Must be economically feasible



Thank You!

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